

1999 Ozone

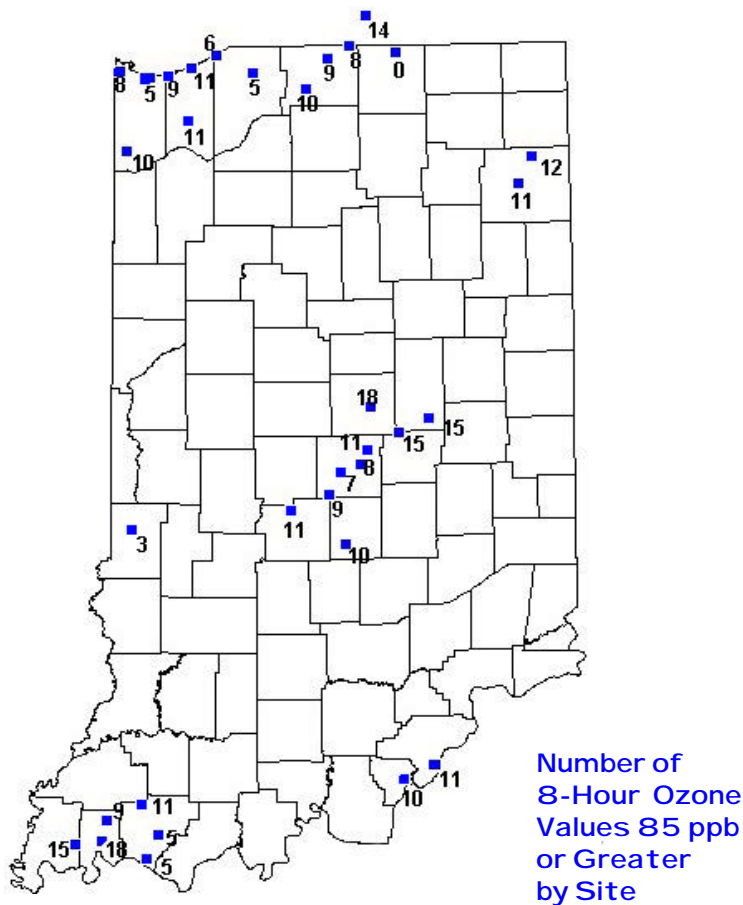
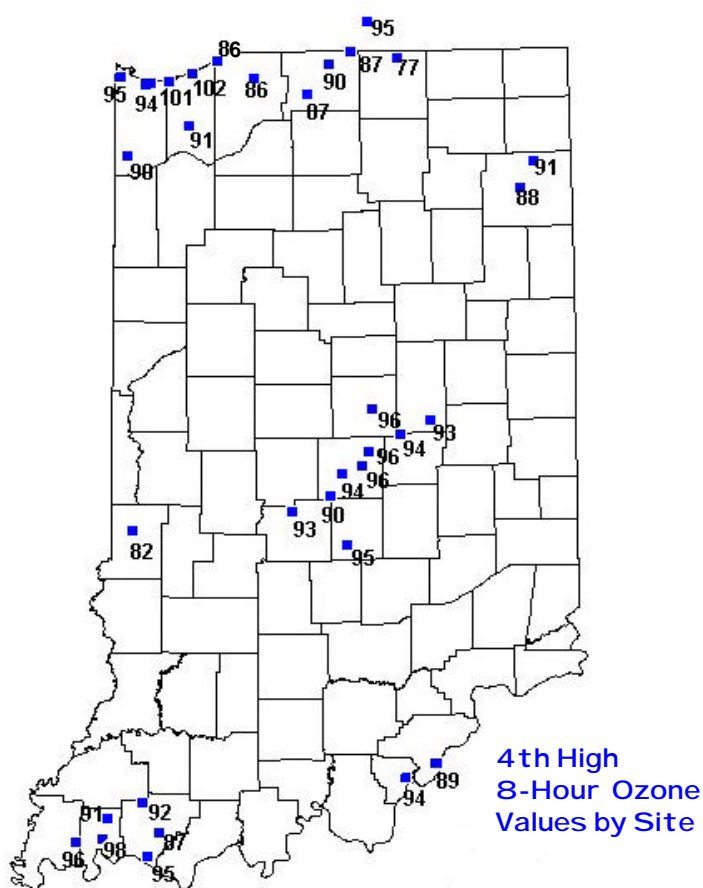


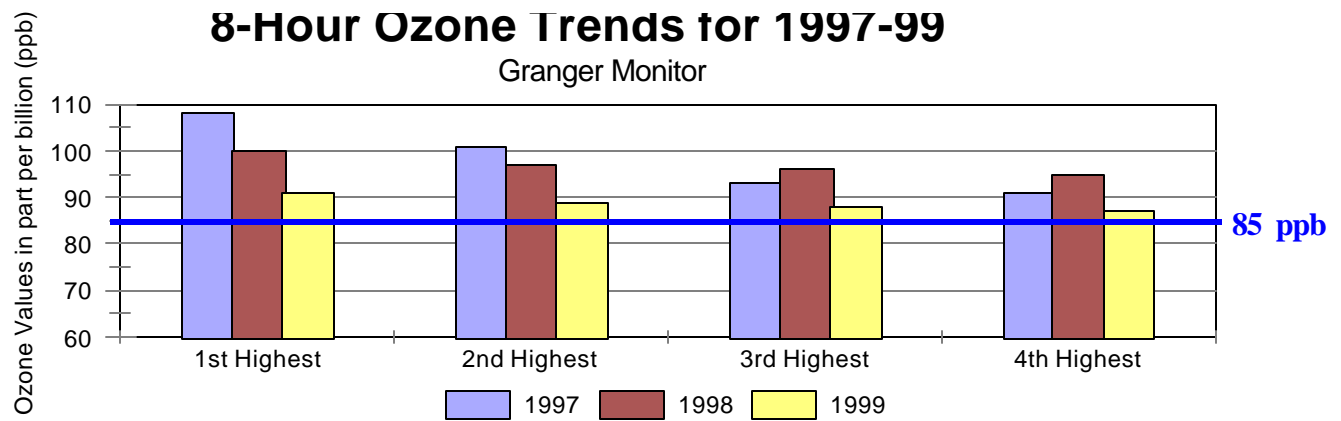
Season Report

This report provides a summary of ozone levels (smog) throughout Indiana during the 1999 ozone season (May 1- September 30). Indiana has five counties where air quality exceeds the one-hour ozone standard and six metropolitan areas where ozone levels exceed the eight-hour standard established by the U.S. EPA in 1997. The eight-hour standard is 85 parts per billion (ppb) and is based on an average of the 4th highest 8-hour ozone readings over a three year period. While the eight-hour standard is being challenged in court, IDEM is pursuing measures to meet the one-hour standard by reducing ozone contributing emissions and improving air quality throughout Indiana.

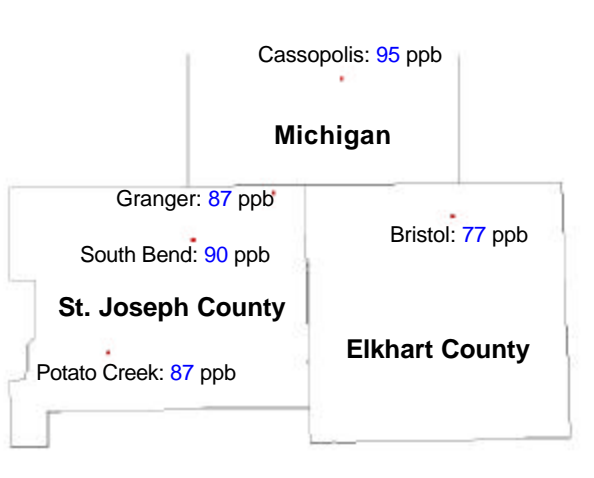
The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) operates 33 ozone monitors across Indiana. All of these monitors, except Bristol in Elkhart County, measured ozone values in excess of 85 ppb at least once during 1999. The highest 8-hour reading was 109 ppb recorded at New Albany, Indiana. The highest number of days in which the health standard was not met at a monitor was 18 days. The Noblesville and Evansville, Indiana monitors each exceeded the 8-hour standard 18 days in 1999. North Central Indiana's Granger, South Bend, and Potato Creek monitors exceeded the 8 hour standard 8, 9, and 10 days, respectively.

The maps below show the fourth highest 8-hour concentration at each monitor and the number of days this year in which ozone values greater than 85 ppb were measured at each site.





North Central Indiana 1999 Ozone Values for 4th highest 8-Hour Readings



Since 1997, North Central Indiana's highest ozone readings have occurred at the Granger monitor. The chart above illustrates the top four ozone values for 1997-99. The eight-hour standard was violated at this site on May 30, 1999, with a 4th high 8-hour reading of 87 parts per billion (ppb) in 1999. This area may be at risk for being classified nonattainment by the US EPA based on 1997-99 data. IDEM and the North Central Regional Steering Committee have worked together to identify steps to reduce ozone levels in St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties.

What Can You Do?

1. Get active in ozone planning for your community. IDEM established seven Regional Ozone Steering Committees to take a proactive approach to ozone planning. Call IDEM for more information on how to get involved.

2. Get in the know about ozone levels. During ozone season, listen or watch for Ozone Action Day information on your local radio and TV stations. You can even get daily ozone readings, forecasts, and monitor data from Indiana's Smog Watch web site. Check out the Smog Watch Web site at <http://www.state.in.us/idem/oam/smog> or call our toll-free Smog Watch Forecast Line at (800) 631-2871 from May through September.

3. Reduce your impact. Ride share; fill up the car or mow your lawn after dusk; and go inside the bank or restaurant instead of using the drive-thru. By making these efforts you can help reduce your impact on high ozone days. For more information on Indiana's ground-level ozone monitoring or voluntary reductions programs, contact Amy Morris, Partners for Clean Air, Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (800) 451-6027, ask for extension 3-6870 or dial (317) 233-6870 direct.

